

REMARKS

Claims 4-10 are pending in this application.

Applicants have amended claims 4-10, and have canceled claims 1-3 and 11. These changes do not introduce any new matter.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's prompt indication that claims 4 and 5 define allowable subject matter. As will be explained in more detail below, Applicants have amended the subject application to place it in condition for immediate allowance.

Applicants have rewritten claims 4 and 5 in independent format. In light of the Examiner's indication that these claims define allowable subject matter, Applicants submit that claims 4 and 5 are now in condition for allowance. Applicants have amended claims 6-9 so that these claims now depend from independent claim 4. In light of the changes made to claims 4 and 5, Applicants have canceled claims 1-3.

Applicants have amended independent claim 10 to include the features specified in claim 4, as presented herein. As such, Applicants submit that claim 10 defines allowable subject matter. As noted above, Applicants have canceled claim 11.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1-3, 6, 7, 10, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Chen* (U.S. Patent No. US 6,552,744 B2). As noted above, Applicants have herein canceled claims 1-3 and 11. Claims 6 and 7 have been amended so that these claims now depend from claim 4, which defines allowable subject matter. As noted above, claim 10 has been amended to include the features of claim 4. Accordingly, claims 6, 7, and 10 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over *Chen*.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Chen* in view of *Wei et al.* (U.S. Patent No. US

6,757,418 B2). As noted above, claim 8 has been amended so that this claim now depends from claim 4, which defines allowable subject matter. As such, claim 8 now defines allowable subject matter for at least the reason that this claim depends from claim 4.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Chen* in view of *Katayama et al.* (JP 09-322054). As noted above, claim 9 has been amended so that this claim now depends from claim 4, which defines allowable subject matter. As such, claim 9 now defines allowable subject matter for at least the reason that this claim depends from claim 4.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of claims 4-10, as amended herein, and submit that these claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a notice of allowance is respectfully requested. In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (408) 749-6902. If any additional fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. MIPFP059).

Respectfully submitted,
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